

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/475,147
Attorney Docket No. Q58584

a notification server for receiving said notification request from said notification request sender according to said open network protocol, and for notifying the subscriber of the occurrence of the event,

wherein said notification server is not in direct communication with said event-generating system.

16. (Amended) A method for notifying a subscriber upon an occurrence of an event in an event-generating system, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a notification server, wherein said notification server is not in direct communication with said event-generating system;
- (b) detecting the occurrence of the event at the event-generating system;
- (c) preparing a notification request according to an open network protocol;
- (d) transmitting said notification request to said notification server according to said open network protocol; and
- (e) notifying the subscriber of the occurrence of the event according to said notification request.

26. (Twice Amended) A method for sending a message to a subscriber by a requesting user, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a notification server;

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- (b) requesting a notification of the subscriber by the requesting user, wherein a notification mechanism for notifying the subscriber is determined independently of the manner in which the requesting user provides the notification request message;
- (c) sending said notification request message directly to said notification server;
- (d) selecting said notification mechanism for notifying the subscriber by said notification server; and
- (e) sending said notification to the subscriber through said notification mechanism by said notification server.

Please add the following new claims:

38. (New) A system for notifying a subscriber upon an occurrence of an event, the system comprising:
- a first event-generating system for generating a first event;
 - a second event-generating system for generating a second event;
 - a first notification request sender for detecting the occurrence of the first event and for preparing a first notification request according to a first open network protocol;
 - a second notification request sender for detecting the occurrence of the second event and for preparing a second notification request according to a second open network protocol; and
 - a notification server for receiving at least one of said first notification request and said second notification request from the respective notification request sender according to the

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respective open network protocol and for notifying the subscriber of the occurrence of the corresponding event,

wherein said notification server is not in direct communication with at least one of said first event-generating system and said second event-generating system.

39. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein said first open network protocol and said second open network protocol are the same open network protocol.

40. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein at least one of said first event and said second event is a messaging event.

41. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein at least one of said first event and said second event is a non-messaging event.

42. (New) The system of claim 38, further comprising:
a third event-generating system for generating a third event; and
a third notification request sender for detecting the occurrence of the third event and for preparing a third notification request according to one of said first open network protocol and said second open network protocol,

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wherein said notification server receives at least one of said first notification request, said second notification and said third notification request from the respective notification request sender according to the respective open network protocol and notifies the subscriber of the occurrence of the corresponding event.

43. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said notification request message is input by the requesting user via a web page.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein said web page is provided by the notification server.